PUNCH!!
MEGATON
...

魔拳のデイドリーマー
第9話
●大ヒット御礼！コミックス1巻、絶賛発売中!!
原作：西和尚
漫画：村松麻由

ピク…
ピク…
LOOKS LIKE IT'S DEAD.
WASN'T AS STRONG AS I THOUGHT.

SO LET ME EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE.
THANK YOU.
THIS PROVED TO BE A VALUABLE EXPERIENCE FOR ME
I MIGHT BE GETTING AHEAD OF MYSELF HERE...
I MEAN, SINCE I'M AN ADVENTURER AND ALL...
LET'S GO HOME, ELK.
EH?
OH... OKAY...
AND NOW...

NOT LIKE THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE IN THIS DUNGEON
SO LET'S JUST TAKE WHAT WE NEED...
AND GET OUT OF HERE.
ALRIGHT.
ぽんっ
ぴゅ!!
ぐっ
THIS WILL DO♪

WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?
SO THE HEAD IS HERE...
AND THE TAIL THERE
AFTER PASSING ONE OF HER TEST
THIS WAS A REWARD I GOT FROM MY MOM...
HEAVE HO!
IF I TWIRL IT AROUND THIS POLE IT'LL BE EASIER TO CARRY!

THE GUILD WILL PROVIDE REWARD FOR UNKNOWN MONSTERS AS WELL, RIGHT?
Y-YEAH ...
.....
LOCAL GUILD OUTSIDE OF THE DUNGEON
EXCUSE ME, RIN-SAN.

YOU...
TOOK DOWN THAT MONSTER!?
I PRESUME BRINGING THIS MASSIVE THING TO THE GUILD IN THE CITY WOULD CAUSE QUITE AN UPROAR...
YEAH...
THAT'S WHY WE ASKED YOU TO COME OVER.
WE'LL BRING IT BACK TO THE GUILD.
LEAVE THIS TO US.
YOUR JUDGEMENT IS CERTAINLY CORRECT.
I APOLOGIZE FOR GETTING FLUSTERED.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW, RIN-SAN?
SHE LOOKS QUITE EXHAUSTED ...
SO I'LL LEAVE THIS FOR ANOTHER DAY.
IF POSSIBLE, I'D LIKE YOU TWO TO GIVE ME A DETAILED REPORT, BUT...
CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
HEY, UM...
PLEASE DO RETURN ...
AND HAVE A GOOD REST FOR TODAY

I DON'T MEAN TO BE RUDE ...
BUT WHEN CAN WE EXPECT TO GET THE REWARDS. .?
NOT ONLY DO WE HAVE TO CONFIRM THE MATERIALS ...
WE'LL ALSO HAVE TO HEAR YOUR EXPLANATION TO CONDUCT THE INVES-TIGATION...
SO IF YOU CAN FINISH THE REPORT TOMORROW, THEN YOU CAN PROBABLY EXPECT IT THE FOLLOWING WEEK.
ANY MORE QUESTIONS?
LET'S GO, MINATO.
NO, I'M GOOD.
THANK YOU

YOU...

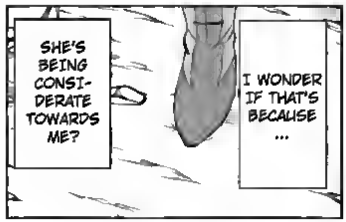
NO, NEVER MIND.

HEY, MINATO ...
HM?
WHAT??

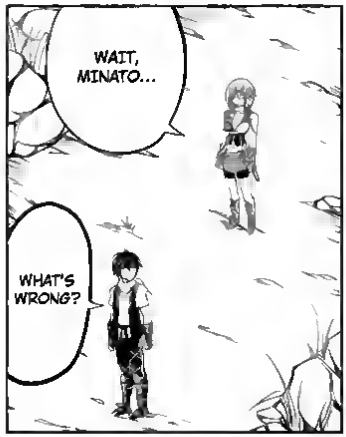
I WAS ABLE TO DEFEAT SUCH A HIGH RANKED AND MASSIVE MONSTER ..
I KNOW WHAT ELK WANTS TO SAY!

SO OBVIOUSLY SHE WOULD BE ON GUARD TOWARDS ME..

AS SUCH, SHE'S DEFINITELY HAVING DOUBTS ABOUT ME AND MY STRENGTH.


SHE'S BEING CONSI-DERATE TOWARDS ME?
I WONDER IF THAT'S BECAUISE ...

BUT SHE DIDN'T SAY IT OUT LOUD.


WAIT, MINATO...
WHAT'S WRONG?

THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT ASK OF YOU...

ABOUT THE REWARD AFTER WE REPORT THE DETAILS OF THAT GIANT SNAKE...
THAT SEEMS LIKE A HASSLE..
SO HOW ABOUT JUST SPLITTING IT IN HALF?

WH-WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY!?
HALF, HUH...
KAAAAAAH!!?
SPLITTING IT IN TWO EQUAL HALVES!!?
EH?
ISN'T THAT WHAT I JUST SAID? I MEAN WE ARE A TEAM, AFTER ALL ...

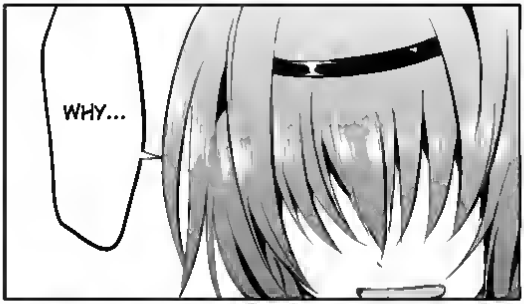
BUT YOU TOOK CARE OF IT ALL BY YOURSELF!!
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING!!? YOU SHOULD TAKE ALL THE REWARDS FOR YOURSELF!!
I'VE BEEN CONTEMPLATING ABOUT THIS YESTERDAY, BUT I REALLY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING AT ALL!!

WHY ARE YOU GETTING SO MAD ...
SO YOU... ARE YOU AN IDIOT!!?
YOU'RE DEFINITELY AN IDIOT!!

SO SPLITTING IT IN HALF WORKS IN YOUR FAVOUR, RIGHT?
LISTEN ...
HM...
DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THAT YOU NEED MONEY?

CALM DOWN...

...!!
ぷるぷる


WHY...

HUH?
NOW WHAT?
ARE YOU OKAY?

?

WHY ARE YOU TREATING ME SO NICELY ...!?
I'M A GREEDY WOMAN WHO ALWAYS HAVE MONEY ON HER MIND!
SO WHY ARE YOU BEING SO KIND TOWARDS SOMEONE LIKE ME ...
I'M NOT TREATING YOU NICELY OR ANYTHING ...
IT'S JUST THAT THE WHOLE SPLITTING THE SPOILS THING IS A DRAG...
AND NOT LIKE I NEED MONEY RIGHT NOW.
YOU...
DO YOU TREAT EVERYONE LIKE THIS?
I'LL PUT IT BLUNTLY, BUT PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO SUFFERS FROM NICE GUY SYNDROME...
DOESN'T MATTER WHO OR WHAT THEY ARE!?
WILL ONLY FALL VICTIM TO TRICKS AND GET THE SHORT END OF THE BARGAIN!

IT'S SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST! HONEST NICE GUYS ARE ALL IDIOTS...!
BECAUSE IN THIS WORLD...
SO THIS IS...
WHAT ELK'S BEEN WANTING TO SAY...
HER TRUE FEELINGS.
IT'S NOT LIKE I TREAT EVERYONE THIS WAY.
I'M ACTUALLY PRETTY SELFISH, YOU KNOW?
THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT SHE'S PUTTING IN HER ALL...
TO EXPRESS HER SADNESS AND HELPLESSNESS IN THOSE WORDS...!

I'M JUST SOMEONE THAT'LL BRING NOTHING BUT TROUBLE TO YOU!
HOW COME I DON'T SEE IT!?
I MEAN IF I HAVE TO GIVE A REASON, THEN...
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE OF HOW HARD YOU'RE WORKING.
YOU'RE ...
ALWAYS KIND AND FULL OF ENERGY...
VERY SERIOUS AND TAKES GOOD CARE OF PEOPLE.
FINDING SOMEONE WHO WOULD EARNESTLY TEACH AND GUIDE ME...
ISN'T THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO A RECLUSE LIKE ME?
THAT'S WHY I TOOK IT UPON MYSELF TO GET CLOSE TO YOU.

YOU...
JUST DON'T UNDER-STAND ANY-THING.
HONESTY AND DILIGENCE ...
HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH ME ..
BUT EVEN SO...
NOT EVERYONE CAN FEEL REGRET...
THEN SINCERELY REFLECT ON THEMSELVES LIKE YOU, YOU KNOW?
YOU SAW THROUGH ME...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

IT'S EASY TO DWELL ON HER PAST, BUT I CHOSE NOT TO...
BECAUSE I ALREADY DECIDED TO PUT MY TRUST IN HER.
MINATO ...
I'M SORRY.
MY MY!!
I'VE HEARD YOU BROUGHT DOWN AN AMAZING MONSTER IN THAT NAGA DUNGEON!!
IS THAT TRUE, MINATO-SAN!!?

NEWS SURE TRAVELS FAST...
I HEARD SOMEONE TALK ABOUT AN ADVENTURER IN BLACK, AND I INSTANTLY KNEW IT WAS YOU!
FUFUN!
DIDN'T YOU KNOW ...
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WITH BLACK HAIR AND BLACK EYES...
RIGHT?
SO IT HAS TO BE YOU!
WELL, YOU GOT ME ...
WOW!
I'VE HEARD YOU WERE ONLY A BEGINNER TOO...

MAYBE I'VE BEEN TALKING TO THE FUTURE HERO THIS ENTIRE TIME?
KYAAA AAAH!

I ALSO FELT IT WHEN I WAS WALKING ON THE STREETS.
I CAN FEEL CURIOUS AND HOSTILE GAZES DIRECTED AT ME...
IT'S BETTER IF I STAY IN MY ROOM TODAY.
THOSE TWO ARE PROBABLY TOGETHER.
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER SO GLOOMY BEFORE, I CAN'T EVEN TEASE HER LIKE THIS.
WHAT'S WITH ELK-SAN?
HEY, MINATO-SAN
WIBBLE WOBBLE
OH ..
SHE'S REALLY TIRED.
JUST LEAVE HER BE.

BEING AN ADVENTURER IS HARD WORK IT SEEMS...
I GOT IT.
I'LL LET HER OFF THE HOOK FOR TODAY.
SHE MAY BE INEXPERIENCED, BUT PLEASE DO TAKE CARE OF HER
SHE PROBABLY CRACKED THIS JOKE...
TO BRIGHTEN UP THE ATMOS-PHERE A BIT...
LET'S GO, ELK.
THE SITUATION PROGRESSED...
FASTER THAN I EXPECTED.

FUU...
HOW UNSIGHTLY...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'VE FALLEN SO FAR...
HOW COME I DIDN'T SUSPECT THOSE GUYS BEFORE...
3 MONTHS AGO...
WHAT? WHY IS THIS HERE?
BUT IT'S SO EXPENSIVE...
BUT IT'S NOT SOMETHING A BEGINNER ADVENTURER LIKE ME CAN AFFORD...

IT WAS A TRAGIC SERIES OF EVENTS THAT BROKE OUT AT A WEAPON SHOP.
THAT'S A SPECIAL RARE ITEM THAT WE RARELY PUT ON THE SHELVES.
IF YOU HESITATE, SOME OTHER CUSTOMER MIGHT SNATCH IT AWAY.
I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN ...!!
I HAVE TO GET THIS!
BUT HOW ...!?
YOU SEEM TROUBLED.
I AM A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE MARLUS ASSOCIATION THAT WORK TO HELP FRESH ADVENTURERS WITH A PROMISING FUTURE.
IF YOU'D LIKE, MAYBE I CAN HELP YOU STRIKE A DEAL.
YOU CAN TRUST HIM.
HE ALREADY HELPED COUNTLESS ADVEN-TURERS BEFORE.

LITTLE DID I KNOW THAT THE OWNER OF THE SHOP WAS IN ON THIS WITH THAT MAN...
AND I ENDED UP BORROWING MONEY FROM THAT GUY.
OH, THEN I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU.
SO I BELIEVED HIM WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT...
THE MARLUS ASSOCIATION IS ONE OF THE LARGEST COMPANIES AROUND.
IS FAR MORE THAN THE ORIGINAL SUM I'VE BORROWED.
¥330,000,000,!
THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THEY'RE ASKING FOR...
AND WITHIN A WEEK, I RECEIVED THE RECEIPT...
WHAT!! SO MUCH MONEY!?
BUT I ALREADY SIGNED THE CONTRACT, SO THE LAWS CAN'T EVEN HELP ME WITH THIS...
AFTERWARDS, I'VE SPENT ALL MY TIME IN THE DUNGEONS HUNTING MONSTERS.
BUT CLEARING THE DEBT IS STILL BUT A DISTANT DREAM.
I'VE MADE SURE TO READ THE CONTRACT AND CONSULTED THE RULES AND LAWS IN HOPE TO FIND ANOTHER WAY TO SOLVE THIS ISSUE...
I WAS CORNERED TO THE EXTENT OF EVEN CONSIDERING TO SELL MY BODY...
BUT IT WAS ALL TO NO AVAIL.
BUT IT WAS THEN THAT...

THE WORDS OF THOSE MEN THAT ASKED ME TO HELP THEM KIDNAP WEALTHY MORONS SURFACED IN MY HEAD...
WHEN HE CASUALLY TOOK OUT A MASSIVE BAG OF GOLD...
IT WAS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY, SO I DECIDED TO BRING MINATO TO THOSE MEN...
MINATO APPEARED!
ESPECIALLY WHEN HE SAVED ME FROM THAT SERPENT...
MINATO ALWAYS SAVED ME OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
THE MORE I SUB-MERGED IN HIS KINDNESS, THE DIRTIER AND UGLIER I FELT ...!
YET, UNEXPECTEDLY MY PLAN WAS FOILED. IT WAS A MASSIVE FAILURE THAT NO ONE COULD HAVE SAW COMING.
AND NOT ONLY SO ...

OH, YOU'RE HERE! THAT MEANS YOU'VE ACCEPTED THE DETAILS IN THE LETTER, RIGHT?
FOR ME ...!?
DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE CONSEQUENCES OF WHAT YOU'VE JUST SAID!?
I REFUSE TO HELP YOU GUYS TAKE DOWN MINATO AND STEAL HIS REWARDS.
NO, I'M HERE TO DECLINE.
SELL ME TO WHEREVER YOU WANT!
I DO. BROTHEL OR SLAVERY ...
I WON'T RESIST.

I SAID YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT TO ME.
HAH?
BUT AFTER THIS IS ALL OVER...
JUST LEAVE...
MINATO ALONE.

BUT I'VE ALREADY RAN OUT OF OPTIONS.
ENDING EVERYTHING LIKE THIS WILL PROBABLY MAKE MINATO ANGRY...

AND GO TO HELL ON MY OWN ACCORD TOGETHER WITH ALL MY SINS!
THAT'S NOT REDEMPTION. IT'LL ONLY DIRTY MY HANDS MORE
SINCE I'M GOING TO HELL ANYWAYS, I MIGHT AS WELL TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY
AND HERE YOU ARE SENDING YOURSELF TO HELL.
ARE YOU RETARDED?
WE'RE GIVING YOU A WAY TO REDEEM YOURSELF

I WON'T LET...
ANY MORE PEOPLE BE HURT BECAUSE OF ME!!
YOU ...
WELL, SO BE IT ...
BITCH.
WE'LL JUST SELL YOU TO WHOEVER PAYS MORE.
THEN GO TAKE CARE OF THAT MINATO RASCAL OURSELVES.
.....!?

OUR LINE OF BUSINESS MERELY RESIDES WITHIN LENDING MONEY.
WE'RE JUST LOAN SHARKS.

BUT WE CAN'T HELP IT IF OTHER PEOPLE WHO NEEDS MONEY DECIDES TO KIDNAP HIM FOR US, YOU KNOW?

MY DEBT IS MY OWN BUSINESS!!
THAT'S NOT WHAT WE AGREED TO!!
HE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME, SO LEAVE HIM OUT OF THIS!!

YOU BASTARDS ...!

I FEEL SORRY FOR THAT BLACKY.
HE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS SITUATION IF NOT FOR YOU..

WHAT A FOOLISH BITCH..
IN THE END YOU CAN'T EVEN SOLVE ANYTHING BY TRYING TO PLAY THE HERO.
A HEAD THAT DOESN'T THINK AT ALL AND DRAGS ALL THE PEOPLE AROUND HER DOWN WITH HER!!

SHUT UP!
YOU PEOPLE ARE THE WORST!!
OH? SO THOSE PEOPLE ARE RANKED C'S AND D'S?
THAT BRAT IS DONE FOR. THE PEOPLE THAT I'VE GATHERED TODAY...
ARE ALL RANKED C TO D. NOW THESE GUYS ARE ON A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT LEVEL FROM THE WEAKLINGS YESTERDAY.
THERE'S NO WAY HE'LL BE ABLE TO ESCAPE...
NO WONDER THEY WERE SO WEAK.
WHAT!
!!
THAT'S ...!?

THEY WERE LOOKING AT ME WEIRD, SO I TOOK CARE OF THEM.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU ONLY SENT 10 PEOPLE. DON'T BE SO CHEAP, AT LEAST SEND A HUNDRED AFTER ME.
MINATO ...?
MEN WHO BULLY GIRLS...
WILL BE MET WITH SERIOUS CONSE-QUENCES.